



Pennsylvania Aggregates and Concrete Association

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## PA HOUSE BILL 2276 – THE RELIABLE ACCEPTANCE TESTING OF CONCRETE ACT

The standards that govern commercial construction projects in Pennsylvania clearly define the steps that are required to properly test concrete delivered to a commercial construction project. Unfortunately, what is not clearly defined, is who is responsible for each step within the standards.

The primary concern is that these standards do not define the responsible party for maintaining and monitoring the initial curing of the test cylinders while on the jobsite. This then leads to shortcuts being taken and the required steps not being properly followed, resulting in serious problems.

These problems include:

- The reports that the Licensed Design Professional of Record, the Project Engineer or Architect uses to accept concrete are incomplete and questionable.
- When there are questions raised by test results from specimens where the initial curing was not properly conducted, what follows is uncertainty, delays, additional testing, and often legal disputes. This is costly in time and dollars to the entire construction project team members, including project owners, construction managers, general contractors, concrete contractors, and concrete suppliers.
- The work of testing concrete and other construction materials on commercial projects is usually awarded on a competitive bid basis. Testing agencies who take on the responsibility of providing for all required initial curing, on-going monitoring and proper reporting can be at a cost disadvantage over those agencies who do not follow these protocols. This legislation would create an even playing field.

Uncertainty in testing of such a vital construction material as concrete should not exist within the standards of commercial construction in Pennsylvania. HB 2276 seeks to remedy this uncertainty and reduce the costs of commercial construction result from the lack of clearly defined responsibility.

